



# U.S. Consulate General Shanghai

## News for U.S. Citizens

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**TRAVEL SAFE**

Enroll in [STEP](#) to receive security and emergency messages from the U.S. Consulate.

### Holiday Schedule

Due to upcoming holidays and section renovations, the American Citizen Services Unit will be closed on the following days. Please plan ahead and make an appointment for your services now!

**September 28** – Mid-Autumn Festival

**October 1 – 5** – Chinese National Day

**October 9** – Administrative Day

**October 12** – Columbus Day (U.S.)

**October 13 – 16** – Renovations

**November 11** – Veterans Day (U.S.)

**November 26** – Thanksgiving Day (U.S.)

**November 27** – Administrative Day

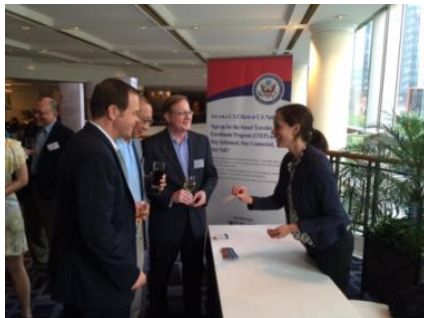
**December 24** – Administrative Day

**December 25** – Christmas Day

### The End of the Visa Pages Program

Beginning January 1, 2016, the U.S. Government **will no longer add visa pages to U.S. passports.**

Instead, all new passports will be issued with 52 pages at no additional cost. This worldwide change enhances the security of U.S. passports. U.S. Citizens who require extra pages in their current U.S. passports should make an appointment to come to the U.S. Consulate in Shanghai before December 31, 2015. Once the change goes into effect worldwide, passport holders who travel frequently should renew early to ensure they have enough blank pages for visa stamps from other countries. To make an appointment: [http://shanghai.usembassy-china.org.cn/appointment\\_system011309.html](http://shanghai.usembassy-china.org.cn/appointment_system011309.html)



### Connecting with Americans, one STEP at a Time

The U.S. Consulate attended AmCham's monthly membership briefing on September 1, 2015 to encourage U.S. citizens living in China to enroll in the Department of State's [STEP program](#). The program helps keep Americans living overseas stay safe and connected to the U.S. Consulate. If you have not registered, please do so at <https://step.state.gov/step/>

## **Shanghai will host the Foreign Service Officer Test (FSOT)!**

Shanghai will host the next round of the Foreign Service Officer Test from October 3 to October 10, 2015. To learn more about careers in the Foreign Service and to register for the test, please visit <http://careers.state.gov/work/foreign-service/officer/test-process>. The deadline to register for the October test is September 30, 2015. The next test will be offered in February 2016.

## **Massage Scams in Shanghai**

Unfortunately, Consulates in Shanghai continue to receive reports of scams targeting foreign citizens living in or visiting China. One common scam involves young women approaching foreigners on Nanjing East Road with the promise of cheap massages. The scene often ends with owners demanding exorbitant amounts of money and victims shelling out thousands of dollars. Please remember to be aware of your surroundings and never follow someone to an out of the way location for services! If you are the victim of a crime, please report it to the local police immediately. If you are able to access YouTube, here is an example of how these scams unfold :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1PePQLFM6Q>

## **New Chinese Visa and Residence Permit Policies**

On Aug. 25, 2015, Pudong Exit-Entry Administration Bureau briefed The American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai members on recently implemented Chinese visa and residence permanent policies. Topics included:

- **High Earners and Permanent Residence**
- **High Level 'Talent' - R Visas and Permanent Residence**
- **New Personnel Affairs Resident Permit (for housekeepers)**

Details can be found on the [Shanghai Public Security Bureau's Web site](#), or by calling the Pudong Exit & Entry Administration's information line (86-21) 2204-7600 (Chinese only).

## **U.S. Consulate General in Shanghai China Opening Hours and Location**

**Public Appointment Hours:** Monday to Friday, 8:00 - 11:30 a.m.

**Passport Pickup:** Monday to Friday, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

**U.S. Citizen Visa Hour:** Tuesday, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**Address:** 1038 West Nanjing Road, 8th Floor

**Web site:** <http://shanghai.usembassy-china.org.cn/>